



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND NINE

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING THE REGULATION OF MOTORCYCLE NOISE

- WHEREAS,* Many Boston residents utilize motorcycles in neighborhoods across the city, including dense residential and business districts. When motorcycles are operated properly, they are extremely enjoyable and useful machines. Unfortunately, some riders have illegally bought and installed aftermarket exhaust systems to increase noise; and,
- WHEREAS,* The Council recognizes that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has established federal guidelines regarding motorcycle noise emissions standards. People exposed to excessive motorcycle noise on a daily basis suffer from various health-related problems, including hearing loss, sleep deprivation, chronic fatigue and anxiety; and,
- WHEREAS,* It should be a top priority of this body and the city's administration to protect Boston residents, visitors and business owners from unnecessary motorcycle noise from aftermarket, illegal exhaust systems; and,
- WHEREAS,* In all parts of the country, there have been citizen efforts to speak up about this problem of loud motorcycles; and,
- WHEREAS,* Specifically, residents and business owners in the North End neighborhood have voiced concerns and outrage against riders operating loud motorcycles on Hannover Street; and,
- WHEREAS,* In an effort to preserve public health in the community and secure a high quality of life in the North End, the Transportation Department must take bold action to reduce motorcycle noise; and,
- WHEREAS,* According to the adopted Traffic Rules and Regulations by the City of Boston, there is a list of "streets or parts thereof" that is on file with the Transportation Department that limits vehicular traffic on specific streets; and,
- WHEREAS,* The Commissioner of Transportation should strongly consider banning motorcycles on certain streets in the North End, with an exemption for North End motorcycle owners only, and amend the City of Boston's Traffic Rules and Regulations; *NOW THEREFORE BE IT*
- ORDERED,* That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss banning motorcycles on certain streets in the North End.

Filed on: April 5, 2009